IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEM Applicant(s): Satoh Serial No.: 09/981,402 Group Art Unit: 2815 Filed: October 17, 2001 TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800 Examiner: Richards, N. Drew Title: Semiconductor Device and Method for Its Manufacture Attorney Docket No.: N32040200W ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS Washington, D.C. 20231 STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.97(e) Sir: The undersigned hereby certifies that either: Each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure **(X)** Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, not more than three months prior to the filing of the statement, or No item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement -- was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and -- to the knowledge of the undersigned, after making reasonable inquiry, was known to an individual designated in 37 CFR 1.56 (c) more than three months prior to the filing of the Information Disclosure Statement. Respectfully Submitted, I hereby certify that this correspondence is being Darryl Walker deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Attorney/Agent for Applicant(s) Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231. Reg. No.: 43232 Date of Deposit: December 26, 2002 Date: December 26, 2002 Typed/Printed Name: Darryl Walker Signature: Daul Va

Telephone No.: 1-408-289-5314

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE plicant(s): Satoh Serial No.: 09/981,402 Group Art Unit: 2815 Filed: October 17, 2001 Title: Semiconductor Device and Method Examiner: Richards, N. Drew TECHNOLDGY CENTER 2800 for Its Manufacture Attorney Docket No.: N32040200W **Assistant Commissioner for Patents** Washington, D.C. 20231 INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Sir:

This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

before payment of the issue fee)

- under 37 CFR 1.97(b), or (Within three months of filing national application; or date of entry of international application; or before mailing date of first office action on the merits; whichever occurs last) X under 37 CFR 1.97(c) together with either a: X Certification under 37 CFR 1.97(e), or a \$180.00 fee under 37 CFR 1.17(p), or (After the CFR 1.97(b) time period, but before final action or notice of allowance, whichever occurs first) under 37 CFR 1.97(d) together with a: Certification under 37 CFR 1.97(e), and a petition under 37 CFR 1.97(d)(2)(ii), and a \$130.00 petition fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(i)(1). (Filed after final action or notice of allowance, whichever occurs first, but
- Applicant(s) submit herewith an Information Disclosure Citation together with copies, of patents, publications or other information of which applicant(s) are aware, which applicant(s) believe(s) may be material to the examination of this application and for which there may be a duty to disclose in accordance with 37 CFR 1.56.

The relevance of the attached references is that this is the closest art of which Applicant is aware. Applicant submits that the above references taken alone or in combination neither anticipate nor render obvious the present invention. Consideration of the foregoing in relation to this application is respectfully requested.

It is requested that the information disclosed herein be made of record in this application.
Respectfully submitted, Darryl G. Walker Attorney/Agent for Applicant(s)
Reg. No. 43,232 Date:December 26, 2002 Telephone No.: 1-408-289-5314
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C.
Date of Deposit:December 26, 2002
Typed/Printed Name: Darryl Walker

DalVa

Signature: